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CLASSIFICATION S-E-C-R-E-T

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

# INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY East Germany

DATE DISTR. 15 August 1955

SUBJECT Propaganda Statements by Alfred Neumann

NO. OF PAGES 1 2

PLACE ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW) 25X1

DATE OF INFO.

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION 25X1

1. On 21 [redacted] ary of the SED headqua[redacted] 25X1
of Bezirk Berlin, [redacted] conference of Berlin SED members of the party directives concerning the collecting of signatures for the Vienna Appeal of the World Peace Council against the preparations for atomic warfare. The target fixed for this campaign was one million signatures in East Berlin and half a million signatures in West Berlin. So far, the appeal had been backed by 250,000 West Berliners. Another SED propaganda campaign was to be concerned with the propagation and explanation of the Soviet proposals on disarmament, the reunification of Germany, and peaceful coexistence. All SED cells and so-called house groups were to be convinced of the necessity of stricter controls along sector and zonal boundaries. The recruitment campaign for the KVP was only touched on in passing. It appeared that Neumann [redacted] less self-assurance than usually, which was explained by [redacted] of confusion prevailing among all the leading party and gov[redacted]nt functionaries.

2. Neumann also stated that an all-Berlin rally had been held on West Berlin territory near Spandau on 19 May and that this rally, which had been forbidden by the West Berlin police five times, was attended by 800 members of the trade-union movement, artists, scientists, clergymen, and representatives of all political parties [redacted] sectors of the city. This statement appeared to be a g[redacted] in view of the fac[redacted]rsionist [redacted] people from East B[redacted]n after some short resolutions had been read.

3. Neumann told the audience that West Berlin was to be converted more and more into a military bridgehead of the West and that terror groups for illegal and criminal activities in East Berlin were to be organized there. The SED speaker referred in this connection to imminent trials which would prove his assertions. After the conclusion of the conference, Ebert told his deputy Waldemar Schmidt that these statements by Neumann must be considered as the necessary basis for an intended neutralization of [redacted]

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| COUNTRY | East Germany | DATE DISTR. | 15 August 1955 |
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1. On 21 May 1955, Alfred Neumann, first secretary of the SED headquarters of Bezirk Berlin, informed a conference of Berlin SED members of the party directives concerning the collecting of signatures for the Vienna Appeal of the World Peace Council against the preparations for atomic warfare. The target fixed for this campaign was one million signatures in East Berlin and half a million signatures in West Berlin. So far, the appeal had been backed by 250,000 West Berliners. Another SED propaganda campaign was to be concerned with the propagation and explanation of the Soviet proposals on disarmament, the reunification of Germany, and peaceful coexistence. All SED cells and so-called house groups were to be convinced of the necessity of stricter controls along sector and zonal boundaries. The recruitment campaign for the KVP was only touched on in passing. It appeared that Neumann displayed less self-assurance than usually, which was explained by the state of confusion prevailing among all the leading party and government functionaries.

2. Neumann also stated that an all-Berlin rally had been held on West Berlin territory near Spandau on 19 May and that this rally, which had been forbidden by the West Berlin police five times, was attended by 800 members of the trade-union movement, artists, scientists, clergymen, and representatives of all political parties in the two sectors of the city. This statement appeared to be a gross exaggeration in view of the fact that about 300 excursionists, mostly young people from East Berlin, met and dispersed again after some short resolutions had been read.

3. Neumann told the audience that West Berlin was to be converted more and more into a military bridgehead of the West and that terror groups for illegal and criminal activities in East Berlin were to be organized there. The SED speaker referred in this connection to imminent trials which would prove his assertions. After the conclusion of the conference, Ebert told his deputy Waldemar Schmidt that these statements by Neumann must be considered as the necessary basis for an intended neutralization or internationalization of Berlin.

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